

FORM PTO-1390 (Modified)  
(REV 11-98)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES**  
**DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)**  
**CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371**

522

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN, SEE 37 CFR 1.5)

09/720744

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.  
**PCT/EP99/04085**

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE  
**June 28, 1999**

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED  
**June 29, 1998**

## TITLE OF INVENTION

VACUUM TIGHT COUPLING FOR TUBE SECTIONS

## APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

Wilmert De Bosscher, Dirk Cnockaert, Erwin Lootens and Pascal Verheyen

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☐ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).
4. ☒ A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c) (2))
  - a. ☐ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☒ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☐ A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
7. ☐ A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210).
8. ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3))
  - a. ☐ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☒ have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
  - d. ☐ have not been made and will not be made.
9. ☐ A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
10. ☐ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).
11. ☐ A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409).
12. ☐ A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).

## Items 13 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:

13. ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
14. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
15. ☒ A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
16. ☐ A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
17. ☐ A substitute specification.
18. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
19. ☒ Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail
20. ☐ Other items or information:

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN) (37 CFR 1.5) <b>09/7207</b>		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. <b>PCT/EP99/04085</b>		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER <b>522-1730</b>	
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21. The following fees are submitted:

**BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5)) :**

☐ Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO ..... **\$1,000.00**

☒ International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO ..... **\$860.00**

☐ International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO ..... **\$710.00**

☐ International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ..... **\$690.00**

☐ International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ..... **\$100.00**

**ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =**

Surcharge of **\$130.00** for furnishing the oath or declaration later than ☐ 20 ☐ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (e)).

CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	
Total claims	20 - 20 =	0	x \$18.00	<b>\$0.00</b>
Independent claims	2 - 3 =	0	x \$80.00	<b>\$0.00</b>
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>				<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b>				<b>\$860.00</b>
Reduction of 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Verified Small Entity Statement must also be filed (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28) (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>				<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>SUBTOTAL =</b>				<b>\$860.00</b>
Processing fee of <b>\$130.00</b> for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (f)).				<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</b>				<b>\$860.00</b>
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31) (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>				<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</b>				<b>\$860.00</b>
				Amount to be: refunded \$
				charged \$

CALCULATIONS  
PTO USE ONLY

☒ A check in the amount of **\$860.00** to cover the above fees is enclosed.


☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the above fees.  
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **12-0913** A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

**NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.**

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

**Glenn W. Ohlson**  
Lee, Mann, Smith et al.  
PO Box 2786  
Chicago IL 60690-2786



SIGNATURE

**Glenn W. Ohlson**

NAME

**28,455**

REGISTRATION NUMBER

**December 27, 2000**

DATE



12-28-00

09/720744

Case No.: 522-

528 Rec'd CT/PTO 27 DEC 2000  
(Bird Goen & Co.)

Vacuum Tight Coupling for Tube Sections

Please acknowledge receipt of the enclosed:

Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Filing Date: Herewith

Express mail mailing certificate,  
Transmittal Letter to the U.S. Designated/  
Elected Office Concerning a Filing Under 35  
USC 371,  
Amendment Accompanying Application,  
Priority Claim,  
Check No. 42638 for \$860.00,  
return postcard.

Due Date (If Any):

Date Sent: December 27, 2000 kk

"Express Mail" mailing label number

EL 700 384 415 US

Date of deposit: December 27, 2000

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Jorge Galvan

(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)